

REMARKS

DRAWINGS

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. The cover member referred to by the Examiner is cover portion 37b of cowl 37. This is illustrated in Figures 1 and 4 and described in the specification on page 13 beginning at line 12. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 4 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sato, et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,499,508) in view of Fujiwara (U.S. Pat. No. 6,669,548). Claims 2 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sato, et al. in view of Fujiwara and in further view of Toyoshima, et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,622,787). Claims 7 and 9-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fujiwara in view of Sumiya, et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,676,595). Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fujiwara in view of Sumiya, et al. and in further view of Toyoshima, et al. See Claim 2, above. Claims 7 and 9-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fujiwara in view of Sumiya, et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,676,595).

All of the above rejections rely on Fujiwara (U.S. Pat. No. 6,669,548). Fujiwara was filed January 30, 2003, it was published July 31, 2003 and it issued December 30,

2003. Fujiwara claims priority to JP 2002-023867 which was filed on January 31, 2002 and the priority application was published on August 5, 2003 as 2003-220818.

The present application was filed on July 18, 2003 and thus Applicants believe that Fujiwara is only available as a 35 USC § 103 reference through 35 USC § 102(e). Effective November 29, 1999, subject matter which was prior art under former 35 USC § 103 via 35 USC § 102(e) is now disqualified as prior art against the claimed invention if the subject matter and the claimed invention "were at the time the invention was made, owned by the same person or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same person". 35 USC § 103(c).

The present application and Fujiwara (U.S. Pat. No. 6,669,548) are assigned to DENSO Corporation. Enclosed is a copy of the Assignment from the inventors of the present application to DENSO Corporation for the Examiner's reference. This Assignment has been sent to the USPTO for recording. Thus, Applicants do not believe that Fujiwara is a valid 35 USC § 103 reference, and that Claims 1-12 of the present invention patentably distinguish over the art of record. Reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

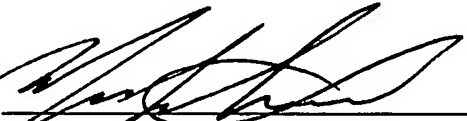
CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt

and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: March 15, 2004

By: 
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